



**Date 20.5.2020**

**Department of Civil Engineering do Diploma –**

**4<sup>th</sup> SEM**

**05- Lecture Notes on  
R.C.C. T Beam**

**Based on limit method**

## T-beams and L-beams

Beams having effectively *T-sections* and *L-sections* (called *T-beams* and *L-beams*) are commonly encountered in beam-supported slab floor systems [Figs. 2.8]. In such situations, a portion of the slab acts integrally with the beam and bends in the longitudinal direction of the beam. This slab portion is called the *flange* of the T- or L-beam. The beam portion below the flange is often termed the *web*, although, technically, the web is the full rectangular portion of the beam other than the overhanging parts of the flange. Indeed, in shear calculations, the web is interpreted in this manner.

When the flange is relatively wide, the flexural compressive stress is not uniform over its width. The stress varies from a maximum in the web region to progressively lower values at points farther away from the web. In order to operate within the framework of the theory of flexure, which assumes a *uniform* stress distribution across the *width* of the section, it is necessary to define a *reduced effective flange*.

The ‘effective width of flange’ may be defined as the width of a hypothetical flange that resists in-plane compressive stresses of uniform magnitude equal to the peak stress in the original wide flange, such that the value of the resultant longitudinal compressive force is the same (Fig. 2.8).

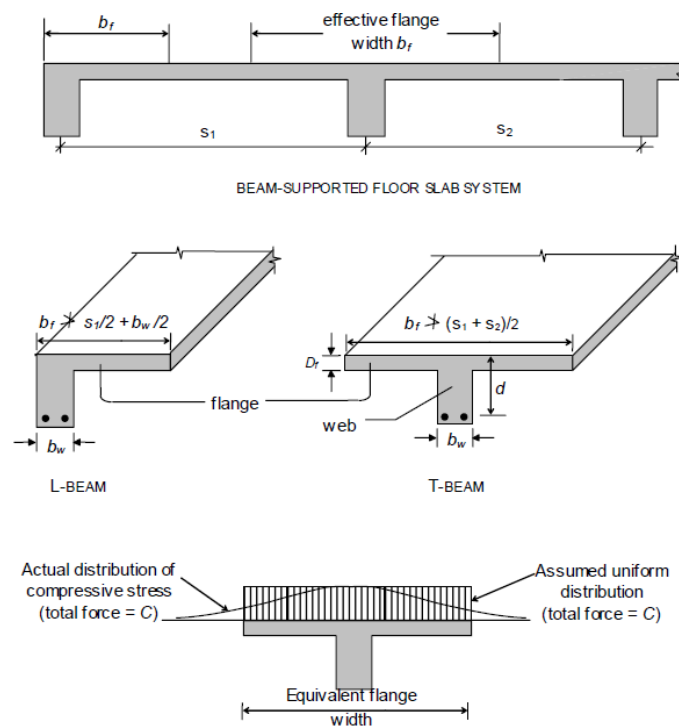


Figure 2.8 T-beams and L-beams in beam-supported floor slab systems

The effective flange width is found to increase with increased span, increased web width and increased flange thickness. It also depends on the type of loading (concentrated, distributed, etc.) and the support conditions (simply supported, continuous, etc.). Approximate formulae for estimating the effective width of flange  $b_f$  (Cl. 23.1.2 of Code) are given as follows:

$$b_f = \begin{cases} l_0 / 6 + b_w + 6D_f & \text{for T-Beam} \\ l_0 / 12 + b_w + 3D_f & \text{for L-Beam} \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

where  $b_w$  is the breadth of the web,  $D_f$  is the thickness of the flange [Fig 2.8], and  $l_0$  is the distance between points of zero moments in the beam (which may be assumed as 0.7 times the effective span in continuous beams and frames). Obviously,  $b_f$  cannot extend beyond the slab portion tributary to a beam, i.e., the actual width of slab available. Hence, the calculated  $b_f$  should be restricted to a value that does not exceed  $(s_1 + s_2)/2$  in the case of T-beams, and  $s_1/2 + b_w/2$  in the case of L-beams, where the spans  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  of the slab are as marked in Fig.

2.8.

In some situations, *isolated* T-beams and L-beams are encountered, i.e., the slab is discontinuous at the sides, as in a footbridge or a 'stringer beam' of a staircase. In such cases, the Code [Cl. 23.1.2(c)] recommends the use of the following formula to estimate the effective width of flange  $b_f$ :

$$b_f = \begin{cases} \frac{l_0}{l_0/b + 4} + b_w & \text{for isolated T-Beams} \\ \frac{0.5l}{l_0/b + 4} + b_w & \text{for isolated L-Beam} \end{cases} \quad (13)$$

where  $b$  denotes the *actual* width of flange; evidently, the calculated value of  $b_f$  should not exceed  $b$ .

### Analysis of Singly Reinforced Flanged Sections

The procedure for analysing flanged beams at ultimate loads depends on whether the neutral axis is located in the flange region [Fig. 2.8(a)] or in the web region [Fig. 2.8(b)].

If the neutral axis lies within the flange (i.e.,  $x_u \leq D_f$ ), then as in the analysis at service loads all the concrete on the tension side of the neutral axis is assumed ineffective, and the T-section may be analysed as a rectangular section of width  $b_f$  and effective depth  $d$  [Fig. 2.8(a)]. Accordingly, Eq. (7) and Eq. (9) are applicable with  $b$  replaced by  $b_f$ .

If the neutral axis lies in the web region (i.e.,  $x_u > D_f$ ), then the compressive stress is carried by the concrete in the flange and a portion of the web, as shown in Fig. 2.8(b). It is convenient to consider the contributions to the resultant compressive force  $C_u$ , from the web portion ( $b_w \times x_u$ ) and the flange portion (width  $b_f - b_w$ ) separately, and to sum up these effects. Estimating the compressive force  $C_{uw}$  in the 'web' and its moment contribution  $M_{uw}$  is easy, as the full stress block is operative:

$$C_{uw} = 0.361 f_{ck} b_w x_u \quad (14)$$

$$M_{uw} = C_{uw}(d - 0.416x_u) \quad (15)$$

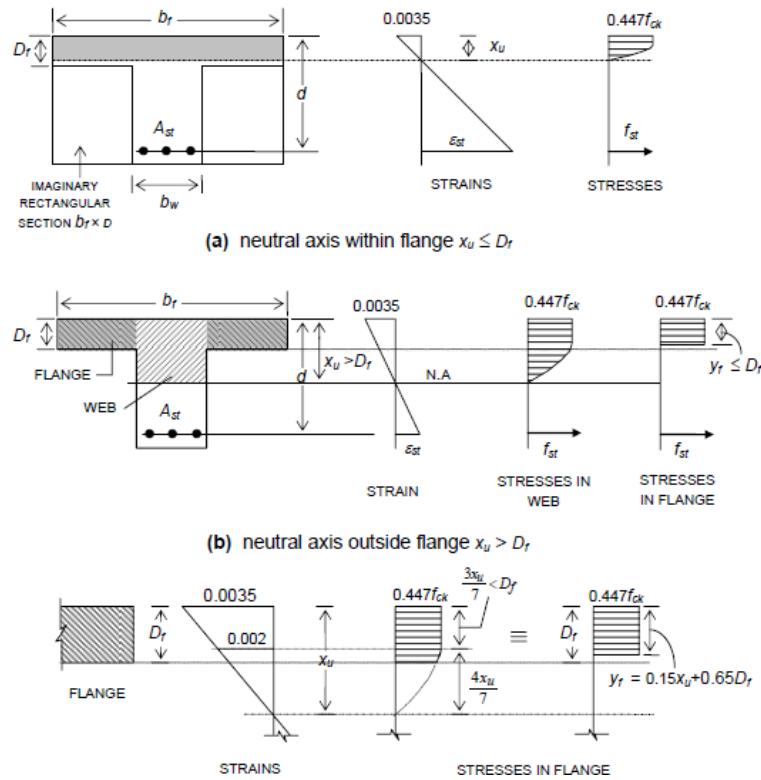


Figure 2.9 Behaviour of flanged beam section at ultimate limit state

However, estimating the compressive force  $C_{uf}$  in the flange is rendered difficult by the fact that the stress block for the flange portions may comprise a rectangular area plus a truncated parabolic area [Fig. 2.8(b)]. A general expression for the total area of the stress block operative in the flange, as well as an expression for the centroidal location of the stress block, is evidently not convenient to derive for such a case. However, when the stress block over the flange depth contains only a rectangular area (having a uniform stress  $0.447 f_{ck}$ ), which

occurs when  $\frac{3}{7} x_u \geq D_f$ , an expression for  $C$  and its moment contribution  $M_{uf}$  can easily be

formulated. For the case,  $1 < x_u / D_f < 7 / 3$ , an *equivalent* rectangular stress block (of area  $0.447 f_{ck} y_f$ ) can be conceived, for convenience, with an equivalent depth  $y_f \leq D_f$ , as shown in Fig. 2.8(c). The expression for  $y_f$  given in the Code (Cl. G – 2.2.1) is necessarily an approximation, because it cannot satisfy the *two* conditions of ‘equivalence’, in terms of area of stress block as well as centroidal location. A general expression for  $y_f$  may be specified for any  $x_u > D_f$ :

$$y_f = \begin{cases} 0.15x_u + 0.65D_f & \text{for } 1 < x_u / D_f < 7 / 3 \\ D_f & \text{for } D_f \geq 7 / 3 \end{cases} \quad (16)$$

The expressions for  $C$  and  $M$  are accordingly obtained as:

$$C_{uf} = 0.447 f_{ck} (b_f - b_w) y_f \quad \text{for } x_u > D_f \quad (17)$$

$$M_{uf} = C_{uf} (d - y_f / 2) \quad (17a)$$

The location of the neutral axis is fixed by the force equilibrium condition (with  $y$  expressed in terms of  $x$  [Eq. 17]).

$$C_{uf} + C_{st} = f_{st} A_{st} \quad (18)$$

where  $f_{st} = 0.87 f_y$  for  $x_u \leq x_{u,max}$ . Where  $x_u > x_{u,max}$ , the strain compatibility method has to be employed to determine  $x_u$ .

Substituting Eq. 14 and Eq. 17 in Eq. 18, and solving for  $x_u$ ,

$$x_u = \frac{f_{st} A_{st} - 0.447 f_{ck} (b_f - b_w) y_f}{0.361 f_{ck} b_w} \quad \text{for } x_u > D_f \quad (19)$$

The final expression for the ultimate moment of resistance  $M_{uR}$  is obtained as:

$$M_{uR} = M_{uw} + M_{uf} \quad (20)$$

$$\Rightarrow M_{uR} = 0.361 f_{ck} b_w x_u (d - 0.416 x_u) + 0.447 f_{ck} (b_f - b_w) y_f (d - y_f / 2) \quad (21)$$

## Limiting Moment of Resistance

The limiting moment of resistance  $M_{u,lim}$  is obtained for the condition  $x_u = x_{u,max}$ , where  $x_{u,max}$  takes the values of  $0.531d$ ,  $0.479d$  and  $0.456d$  for Fe 250, Fe 415 and Fe 500 grades of tensile steel reinforcement. The condition  $x_u/D_f \geq 7/3$  in Eq. 4.69, for the typical case of Fe 415, works out, for  $x_u = x_{u,max}$ , as  $0.479d/D_f \geq 7/3$ , i.e.,  $D_f \leq 0.205d$ . The Code (Cl. G-2.2) suggests a simplified condition of  $d/D_f \leq 0.2$  for *all* grades of steel — to represent the condition  $x_u/D_f \geq 7/3$ .

Eq. (21) and Eq. (16) take the following forms:

$$M_{u,lim} = 0.361 f_{ck} b_w x_{u,max} (d - 0.416 x_{u,max}) + 0.447 f_{ck} (b_f - b_w) y_f (d - y_f / 2) \text{ for } x_{u,max} > D_f \quad (22)$$

$$y_f = \begin{cases} 0.15 x_{u,max} + 0.65 D_f & \text{for } D_f / d > 0.2 \\ D_f & \text{for } D_f / d \leq 0.2 \end{cases} \quad (23)$$

The advantage of using Eq. (23) in lieu of the more exact Eq. (16) (with  $x_u = x_{u,max}$ ) is that the estimation of  $y_f$  is made somewhat simpler. Of course, for  $x_{u,max} \leq D_f$  (i.e., neutral axis within the flange),

$$M_{u,lim} = 0.361 f_{ck} b_f x_{u,max} (d - 0.416 x_{u,max}) \text{ for } x_{u,max} \leq D_f \quad (24)$$

As mentioned earlier, when it is found by *analysis* of a given T-section that  $x_u > x_{u,max}$ , then the strain compatibility method has to be applied. As an approximate and conservative estimate,  $M_{uR}$  may be taken as  $M_{u,lim}$ , given by Eq. (23) / (24). From the point of view of *design* (to be discussed in Chapter 5),  $M_{u,lim}$  provides a measure of the ultimate moment

capacity that can be expected from a T-section of given proportions. If the section has to be designed for a *factored moment*  $M_u > M_{u,lim}$ , then this calls for the provision of compression reinforcement in addition to extra tension reinforcement.

## Design Procedure

In the case of a *continuous* flanged beam, the negative moment at the face of the support generally exceeds the maximum positive moment (at or near the midspan), and hence governs the proportioning of the beam cross-section. In such cases of negative moment, if the slab is

located on top of the beam (as is usually the case), the flange is under flexural tension and hence the concrete in the flange is rendered ineffective. The beam section at the support is therefore to be designed as a rectangular section for the factored negative moment. Towards the midspan of the beam, however, the beam behaves as a proper flanged beam (with the flange under flexural compression). As the width of the web  $b_w$  and the overall depth  $D$  are already fixed from design considerations at the support, all that remains to be determined is the area of reinforcing steel; the *effective width of flange* is determined as suggested by the Code .

The determination of the actual reinforcement in a flanged beam depends on the location of the neutral axis  $x_u$ , which, of course, should be limited to  $x_{u,lim}$ . If  $M_u$  exceeds  $M_{u,max}$  for a singly reinforced flange section, the depth of the section should be suitably increased; otherwise, a doubly reinforced section is to be designed.

#### **Neutral Axis within Flange ( $x_u \leq D_f$ ):**

This is, by far, the most common situation encountered in building design. Because of the very large compressive concrete area contributed by the flange in T-beam and L-beams of usual proportions, the neutral axis lies within the flange ( $x_u \leq D_f$ ), whereby the section behaves like a rectangular section having width  $b_f$  and effective depth  $d$ .

A simple way of first checking  $x_u \leq D_f$  is by verifying  $M_u \leq (M_{uR})_{x_u=D_f}$  where  $(M_{uR})_{x_u=D_f}$

is the limiting ultimate moment of resistance for the condition  $x_u = D_f$  and is given by

$$(M_{uR})_{x_u=D_f} = 0.361 f_{ck} b_f D_f (d - 0.416 D_f) \quad (25)$$

It may be noted that the above equation is meaning only if  $x_{u,max} > D_f$ . In rare situations involving very thick flanges and relatively shallow beams,  $x_{u,max}$  may be less than  $D_f$ . In such cases,  $M_{u,lim}$  is obtained by substituting  $x_{u,max}$  in place of  $D_f$  in Eq. (25).

#### **Neutral Axis within Web ( $x_u > D_f$ ):**

When  $M_u > (M_{uR})_{x_u=D_f}$ , it follows that  $x_u > D_f$ . The accurate determination of  $x_u$  can be laborious. The contributions of the compressive forces  $C_{uw}$  and  $C_{uf}$  in the 'web' and 'flange' may be accounted for separately as follows:

$$M_{uR} = C_{uw}(d - 0.416 x_u) + C_{uf}(d - y_f / 2) \quad (26)$$



$$C_{uw} = 0.361 f_{ck} b_w x_u \quad (27)$$

$$C_{uf} = 0.447 f_{ck} (b_f - b_w) y_f \quad (28)$$

and the equivalent flange thickness  $y_f$  is equal to or less than  $D_f$  depending on whether  $x_u$  exceeds  $7D_f/3$  or not.

For  $x_{u,max} \geq 7D_f/3$ , the value of the ultimate moment of resistance  $(M_{uR})_{x=7D_f/3}$  corresponding to  $x_u = 7D_f/3$  and  $y_f = D_f$  may be first computed. If the factored moment  $M_u \geq (M_{uR})_{x=7D_f/3}$ , it follows that  $x_u > 7D_f/3$  and  $y_f = D_f$ . Otherwise,  $D_f < x_u < 7D_f/3$  for  $(M_{uR})_{x=D_f} < M_u < (M_{uR})_{x=7D_f/3}$  and

$$y_f = 0.15x_u + 0.65D_f \quad (29)$$

Inserting the appropriate value —  $D_f$  or the expression for  $y_f$  in Eq. (29), in Eq. (26), the resulting quadratic equation (in terms of the unknown  $x_u$ ) can be solved to yield the correct value of  $x_u$ . Corresponding to this value of  $x_u$ , the values of  $C_{uw}$  and  $C_{uf}$  can be computed [Eq. (27), (28)] and the required  $A_{st}$  obtained by solving the force equilibrium equation.

$$T_u = 0.87 f_y A_{st} = C_{uw} + C_{uf}$$

$$\Rightarrow (A)_{st \text{ required}} = \frac{C_{uw} + C_{uf}}{0.87 f_y} \quad (30)$$

## Numerical Problem

**Q-6** A continuous T-beam has the cross-sectional dimensions shown in figure below. The web dimensions have been determined from the consideration of negative moment at support and shear strength requirements. The span is 10 m and the design moment at midspan under factored loads is 800 kNm. Determine the flexural reinforcement requirement at midspan. Consider Fe 415 steel. Assume that the beam is subjected to moderate exposure conditions.

Solution

**Determining approximate  $A_{st}$**

Effective flange width  $b_f$

Actual flange width provided = 1500mm;  $D_f$  = 100 mm;  $b_w$  = 300mm

Maximum width permitted =  $(0.7 \times 10000)/6 + 300 + (6 \times 100) = 2067 \text{ mm} > 1500 \text{ mm}$

Therefore,  $b_f$  = 1500 mm

Assuming  $d$  = 650 mm and a lever arm  $z$  equal to larger of  $0.9d = 585 \text{ mm}$

And  $d - D_f/2 = 600 \text{ mm}$  i.e.  $z = 600 \text{ mm}$

$$(A_{st})_{required} = \frac{800 \times 10^6}{0.87 \times 415 \times 600} = 3693 \text{ mm}^2$$

- Providing 4 bars,  $\phi_{reqd} = \sqrt{\frac{3693/4}{\pi/4}} = 34.3 \text{ mm}$ , i.e., 36 mm

As 4-36 $\phi$  bars cannot be accommodated in one layer within the width  $b_w = 300 \text{ mm}$ , two layers are required.

Assuming a reduced  $d \approx 625 \text{ mm}$ ,  $z \approx 625 - 100/2 = 575 \text{ mm}$ .

$$\Rightarrow (A_{st})_{reqd} \approx 3693 \times \frac{600}{575} = 3854 \text{ mm}^2.$$

- Provide 5-32 $\phi$  [ $A_{st} = 804 \times 5 = 4020 \text{ mm}^2$ ] with 3 bars in the lower layer plus 2 bars in the upper layer, with a clear vertical separation of 32 mm — as shown in Fig. 5.11(b). Assuming 8 mm stirrups and a clear 32 mm cover to stirrups,

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow d &= 700 - 32 - 8 - \frac{1}{5}[(3 \times 16) + 2 \times (32 + 32 + 16)] \\ &= 700 - 40 - 41.6 = 618 \text{ mm} \end{aligned}$$

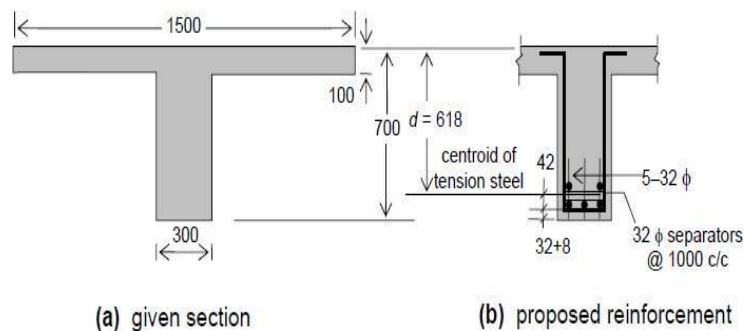


Figure: Reinforcement of T-beam of Example Problem

### Determining actual $A_{st}$

$$x_{u,max} = 0.479 \times 618 = 296 \text{ mm}$$

As  $x_{u,max} > D_f = 100 \text{ mm}$ , the condition  $x_u = D_f$  satisfies  $x_u \leq x_{u,max}$

- Assuming M 25 concrete,  $f_{ck} = 25 \text{ MPa}$

$$\begin{aligned} (M_{uR})_{x_u=D_f} &= 0.362 \times 25 \times 1500 \times 100 \times (618 - 0.416 \times 100) \\ &= 782.5 \times 10^6 \text{ Nmm} < M_u = 800 \text{ kNm} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow x > D \text{ and } M = C_{uf} (d - 0.416 x) + C_{uw} (d - y_f/2)$$

$$\text{where } C_{uw} = 0.362 f_{ck} b_w = 0.362 \times 25 \times 300 x = (2715 x) \text{ N}$$

$$\text{and } C_{uf} = 0.447 f_{ck} (b - b_w) y_f = 0.447 \times 25 \times (1500 - 300) y_f = (13410 y_f) \text{ N}$$

Considering  $x_u = 7D_f/3 = 233 \text{ mm}$  ( $< x_{u,max} = 296 \text{ mm}$ ),  $y_f = D_f = 100 \text{ mm}$

$$\Rightarrow (M_{ur})_{x_u=7D/3} = (2715 \times 233)(618 - 0.416 \times 233) + (13410 \times 100)x(618 - 100/2)$$

$$= 1091.3 \times 10^6 \text{ Nmm} > M_u = 800 \text{ KNm}$$

Evidently,  $D_f < x_u < \frac{7}{3} D_f$ , for which  $y_u = 0.15x_u + 0.65D_f$

$$C_{uf} = 13410(0.15x_u + 65 \times 100) = (2011.5x_u + 871650) \text{ N}$$

$$M_u = 800 \times 10^6 = (2715x_u)(618 - 0.416x_u) + (2011.5x_u + 871650)x_u[618 - (0.15x_u + 65)/2]$$

$$= -1280.3x_u^2 + 2790229.5x_u + 510.35 \times 10^6$$

Solving this quadratic equation,

$$x_u = 109.3 \text{ mm} < x_{u,max} = 296 \text{ mm}$$

$$\Rightarrow y_u = 0.15x_u + 65 = 81.4 \text{ mm}$$

$$\text{Applying } T_{uy} = 0.87f_{yk} A_{st} = C_{uw} + C_{uf}$$

$$(A_{st})_{required} = \frac{(2715 \times 109.3) + (13410 \times 81.4)}{0.87 \times 415} = 3845 \text{ mm}^2$$

The reinforcement (5-32Φ;  $A_{st}=4020 \text{ mm}^2$ , based on appropriate estimate of  $A_{st}$  [Fig.] is evidently adequate and appropriate.

A.K.Agrawal  
**A.M.I.E. civil**  
 Lecturer  
 Civil Engg. Deptt  
 M.P.Polytechnic ,GKP



